

Application No. 09/345,289
Attorney Docket No. 04MV1073

- 3 included in a computer system and coupled together in a distributed
4 heterogeneous environment, the method comprising the steps of:
- 5 a. registering and storing metadata describing a meta-
6 model in the repository;
 - 7 b. generating a set of rules corresponding to the metadata;
 - 8 c. generating a stream of data representing a document
9 corresponding to the meta-model based on the set of rules;
 - 10 d. transmitting from the repository the stream of data, using
11 an exporter module; and,
 - 12 e. receiving at the software tool the transmitted stream of
13 data, using an importer module.

1 2. (Amended) The method as in Claim 1 wherein the repository is MOF-
2 compliant.

1 3. (Amended) The method as in Claim 1 wherein the software tool is
2 compliant to UML standard.

1 4. (Amended) The method as in Claim 1 wherein the set of rules is XML
2 Document Type Definitions corresponding to the metadata.

1 5. (Amended) The method as in Claim 1 wherein the stream of data
2 conforms to XML Metadata Interchange standard.

1 6. (Amended) A storage medium encoded with machine-readable
2 computer program code for effecting data interchange among software tools
3 and repositories in a distributed heterogeneous environment, wherein, when
4 the computer program code is executed by a computer system having at least
5 one repository of a first type and at least one software tool of a second type,
6 the computer system performs the steps of:

- 7 a. registering and storing metadata describing a meta-
8 model in the repository;
- 9 b. generating a set of rules corresponding to the metadata;

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- 10 c. generating a stream of data corresponding to the meta-
11 model based on the set of rules;
12 d. transmitting from the repository the stream of data, using
13 an exporter module; and,
14 e. receiving at the software tool the transmitted stream of
15 data, using an importer module.

1 7. (Amended) The storage medium as in Claim 6 wherein the repository
2 of a first type is MOF-based.

1 8. (Amended) The storage medium as in Claim 6 wherein the software
2 tool of a second type is UML-based.

1 9. (Amended) The storage medium as in Claim 6 wherein the rules are
2 XML Document Type Definitions.

1 10. (Amended) The storage medium as in Claim 6 wherein the stream of
2 data conforms to XML Metadata Interchange standard.

1 11. (Amended) A method for facilitating data interchange in a computer
2 system including a MOF-based repository, the method comprising the steps
3 of:

4 a. registering and storing metadata describing a UML-
5 based meta-model in the MOF-based repository;

6 b. generating XML Document Type Definitions
7 corresponding to the metadata of the UML-based meta-model; and

8 c. generating an XML stream corresponding to the UML-
9 based meta-model using the XML Document Type Definitions.

1 12. (New) The method of Claim 11 wherein the computer system includes
2 a software tool, the method further comprising:

3 d. transmitting the XML stream from the MOF-based repository to
4 the software tool, via an exporter module; and

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5 e. receiving the XMI stream, at the software tool, via an importer
6 module.

1 13. (New) The method of Claim 11 wherein the computer system includes
2 a second repository, the method further comprising:

3 d. transmitting the XMI stream from the MOF-based repository to
4 the second repository, via an exporter module; and

5 e. receiving the XMI stream, at the second repository, via an
6 importer module.

1 14. (New) The method of Claim 13 wherein the second repository is
2 compliant to UML standard.

1 15. (New) The method of Claim 13 further comprising:

2 f. transforming the received XMI stream into corresponding
3 metadata, via the importer module; and

4 g. storing the corresponding metadata in the second repository.

1 16. (New) The method of Claim 15 further comprising:

2 h. transmitting a second XMI stream from the second repository to
3 the MOF-based repository, via a second exporter module; and

4 i. receiving the second XMI stream, at the MOF-based repository,
5 via a second importer module.

1 17. (New) The method of Claim 16 further comprising:

2 j. transforming the received second XMI stream into
3 corresponding metadata, via the second importer module; and

4 k. storing the corresponding metadata in the MOF-based
5 repository.

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